

REMARKS

This paper is being provided in response to the Office Action dated August 26, 2005 for the above-referenced application.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance of claims 15, 22-24, and 32.

The rejection of claim 29 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,009,030 to Seo (hereinafter "Seo") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,414,363 to Mizuguchi (hereinafter " Mizuguchi ") is hereby traversed and reconsideration is respectfully.

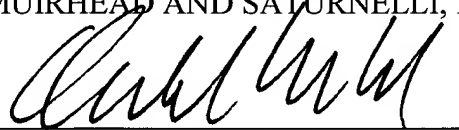
The U.S. patent statute at 35 U.S.C. 103 provides, in part, that:

(c) Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under one or more of subsections (e), (f), and (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

The Mizuguchi reference is currently owned by the same entity as the present application and, at the time of invention was made, was subject to an obligation of assignment to the same entity. Furthermore, the Mizuguchi reference is a U.S. patent that issued on July 2, 2002, which is after the filing date of the present application. Accordingly, the Mizuguchi reference would qualify as prior art only under subsection (e) of section 102 of title 35 and thus, in accordance with the above-quoted section of 35 U.S.C. 103, shall not preclude patentability. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Based on the above, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all outstanding rejections and objections. Favorable consideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. Should there be any questions after reviewing this paper, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at 508-898-8603.

Respectfully submitted,
MUIRHEAD AND SATURNELLI, LLC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Donald W. Muirhead', is written over a horizontal line.

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